

ANALYSIS

This ordinance repeals those provisions of Title 27 - Electrical Code of the Los Angeles County Code, which had incorporated portions of the 2001 Edition of the California Electrical Code by reference, and replaces them with provisions incorporating portions of the 2004 Edition of the California Electrical Code, published by the California Building Standards Commission by reference with certain changes and modifications. Unless deleted or modified herein, the previously enacted provisions of Title 27 continue in effect.

State law requires that the County's Electrical Code impose the same requirements as are contained in the building standards published in the California Electrical Code except for changes or modifications deemed reasonably necessary by the County because of local climatic, geologic, or topographic conditions.

The changes and modifications to requirements contained in the building standards published in the 2004 California Electrical Code which are contained in this ordinance are based upon express findings contained in the ordinance, that such changes are reasonably necessary due to local climatic, geologic, or topographic conditions.

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By
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03/23/05 (Requested)
05/24/05 (Revised)
Title27ElectricalMYCC

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance amending Title 27 - Electrical Code of the Los Angeles County Code by deleting portions of the California Electrical Code, 2001 Edition, which had been included by reference, and by adopting portions of the California Electrical Code, 2004 Edition by reference with certain changes and modifications and making other revisions thereto.

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. Article 089, Article 90, Chapters 1 through 9, and Appendices A, B, C, D, and E, of Title 27 of the Los Angeles County Code are hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. Section 80-1.5 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 80-1.5. California Electrical Code (CEC) Adoption by Reference.

Except as hereinafter changed or modified, Section ~~089-789.7~~ of Article 089, Article 90, Chapters 1 through 9, and ~~Appendices~~Annexes A, B, C, D, ~~and E, and F~~ of that certain Electrical code known and designated as the "California Electrical Code, 20044 Edition," as published by the California Building Standards Commission are adopted by reference and incorporated into this Title 27 of the Los Angeles County Code as if fully set forth below, as Section ~~089-789.7~~ of Article 89, Article 90, Chapters 1 through 9, and ~~Appendices~~Annexes A, B, C, D, ~~and E, and F~~ of Title 27 of the Los Angeles County Code.

A copy of the California Electrical Code, 2004 Edition, hereinafter referred to as the CEC, including the above-designated ~~Appendices~~Annexes or portions thereof, shall be at all times maintained by the Chief Electrical Inspector for use and examination by the public.

SECTION 3. Section 82-5 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 82-5. Plans.

~~Each application for electrical permit shall be accompanied by plans, specifications, diagrams or calculations, as required by the Chief Electrical Inspector.~~
When required by the Chief Electrical Inspector, the applicant shall submit two sets of plans, specifications, calculations, and/or reports with the application for the electrical permit. When a plan checking fee or other fees are required by this or any related ordinance or statute, such fees shall be collected at the time plans are filed. ~~Plans may be filed by a registered electrical engineer, licensed contractor, maintenance electrician, government representative, or authorized owner's representative.~~ Unless otherwise permitted by the Chief Electrical Inspector, all plans, specifications, calculations, and/or reports shall be prepared and designed by a professional electrical engineer registered in the State of California in accordance with the Professional Engineer's Act (California Business and Professions Code sections 6700, et seq.), or by a person who is qualified to prepare electrical engineering documents and who is exempt from registration pursuant to the provisions of the Professional Engineer's Act.

Except for plans prepared solely for the purpose of demonstrating compliance with the requirements of Part 6 of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations (California Energy Code) or except as otherwise permitted by the Chief Electrical Inspector, all plans, specifications, calculations, and/or reports shall bear the signature and the seal or stamp of the person preparing the documents.

SECTION 4. Section 82-13 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 82-13. Exemption From Fees.

The requirements for fees contained in this Code shall not apply when the collection of such fees is contrary to the provisions of any contract to which the County of Los Angeles is a party or is legally prohibited by other laws or ordinances. A fee shall not be required for a permit to perform work regulated by this Code ~~in a structure designed and used exclusively as an emergency fallout shelter, or for a trailer coach~~ exempt from fees in Title 26, entitled "Building Code," or when a combination permit is issued in compliance with the requirements of Title 26.

SECTION 5. Section 82-14 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 82-14. Inspection.

(a) **Scope.** All new electrical work, and such portions of existing systems as may be affected by new work, or any changes, shall be inspected by the Chief Electrical Inspector to insure compliance with all the requirements of this Code.

~~Special inspections may be required on work involving special hazards or conditions and on work requiring extensive, unusual or constant inspection. Special~~

~~inspections, when necessary, shall be accomplished by the means set forth in Title 26, entitled "Building Code," except that the Special Inspector shall be a qualified person approved, registered by, and reporting to, the Chief Electrical Inspector.~~

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SECTION 6. Section 83-7 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 83-7. Electrical Testing Certifications.

Electrical testing certifications will be accepted as complying with the requirements of this Code only when such certifications are issued in accordance with this Code and ~~N~~nationally ~~R~~recognized ~~S~~standards by electrical testing laboratories which have been accredited by the Chief Electrical Inspector.

The Chief Electrical Inspector recognizes three types of electrical testing laboratories:

- ~~Listing and labeling testing laboratories~~Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratories;
- ~~One-of-a-kind testing laboratories~~Field Evaluation Organization laboratories; and
- Calibration and startup ~~testing~~ laboratories.

SECTION 7. Section 83-8 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 83-8. Accreditation of Electrical Testing Laboratories.

- (a) ~~Listing and Labeling Testing Laboratories.~~

~~(1) **Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratories.** Subject to the following conditions, a~~ Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL) accreditation issued by the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration (~~OSHA~~) is accepted by the Chief Electrical Inspector as meeting the accreditation requirements of this Code for listing and labeling testing laboratories.

~~(A) — Each such NRTL shall have a licensed Professional Electrical Engineer registered in the State of California on its permanent full-time staff.~~

~~(B) — Each such NRTL shall have a "follow-up service" system acceptable to the Chief Electrical Inspector.~~

~~(C) — The standards used by each such NRTL shall be compatible and current with the current edition of the California Electrical Code.~~

~~(D) — Each such NRTL shall verify that field personnel will be available within 48 hours (or as acceptable to the Chief Electrical Inspector) of a call from the Building and Safety Division to meet at the job site, when needed to verify equipment certification.~~

~~(2) — **Non-NRTL Listing and Labeling Testing Laboratories.** Non-NRTL listing and labeling testing laboratories must apply to and be accredited by the Chief Electrical Inspector as complying with the requirements of County Electrical Code Bulletins 83.07 and 83.09 and items (A) -- (D) in subsection (a)(1) above.~~

~~(3) — **Product Category Accreditation.** The County accreditation of a listing and labeling testing laboratory shall state the electrical product categories which the Chief Electrical Inspector has determined the laboratory is qualified to evaluate and for~~

~~which the accreditation is issued. The testing laboratory shall meet the requirements of the County Electrical Code Bulletin 83.09 and items (a) through (d) in subsection (a)(1) above.~~

(b) **~~One-of-a-Kind Testing Laboratories~~Field Evaluation Organization**

Laboratories. ~~One-of-a-kind testing laboratories~~Field Evaluation Organizations laboratories must apply to and be approved by the Chief Electrical Inspector ~~as complying with the requirements of County Electrical Code Bulletins 83.07 and 83.09.~~ These laboratories must have a ~~P~~professional ~~E~~electrical ~~E~~engineer registered in California pursuant to the Professional Engineer's Act (California Business and Professions Code section 6700, et seq.) on their permanent full-time staff. The test reports shall bear the ~~P~~professional ~~E~~electrical ~~E~~engineer's signature as required by the State of California Regulations.

(c) **Calibration and Startup Laboratories.** Calibration and startup laboratories must apply to and be approved by the Chief Electrical Inspector ~~as complying with the requirements of County Electrical Code Bulletins 83.07 and 83.09.~~ These laboratories must have a ~~P~~professional ~~E~~electrical ~~E~~engineer registered in California pursuant to the Professional Engineer's Act (California Business and Professions Code section 6700, et seq.) on their permanent full-time staff.

SECTION 8. Article 89 is hereby added to read as follows:

ARTICLE 89

APPLICATION OF STATE AGENCY AMENDMENTS

89.1 Application.

Section 89.7 describes the state agencies that adopt building standards, the specific scope of application of the agency responsible for enforcement, and the specific authority of each agency to adopt and enforce such building standards, unless otherwise stated.

89.2 Reserved

89.3 Reserved

89.4 Reserved

89.5 Reserved

89.6 Reserved

SECTION 9. Section 690.19 is hereby added to Article 690 to read as follows:

690.19 Disconnecting Means For Multiple Arrays.

Where more than one array is combined to form a single output a disconnecting means rated for the output shall be installed immediately adjacent to the combiner box on the output side.

EXCEPTION: If the combiner box is located adjacent to the inverter(s), the disconnecting means as stated above shall not be required.

SECTION 10. The provisions of this ordinance contain various changes, modifications and additions to the 2004 Edition of the California Electrical Code. Some of those changes are administrative in nature in that they do not constitute changes or modifications to requirements contained in the building standards published in the California Building Standards Code.

Pursuant to California Health and Safety Code sections 17958.5, 17958.7, and 18941.5, the Board of Supervisors hereby expressly finds that all of the changes and modifications to requirements contained in the building standards published in the California Electrical Code contained in this ordinance, which are not administrative in nature are reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions in the County of Los Angeles as more particularly described in the table set forth below.

TABLE

ELECTRICAL CODE AMENDMENTS		
CODE SECTION	CONDITION	EXPLANATION
690.19	Geological	The requirement of a disconnecting means for the conductors in a solar photovoltaic system of any rating will allow power to a building or structure to be disconnected during and following a seismic event.

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